



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

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| Date Issued | 07/23/2012 | Interpretation | 12-001 |
| Topic | Existing Building Fire Alarm Control Unit | | |
| Code Section(s) | 2010 CFC 907, NFPA 72 | | |
| Requested by | Thomas Harvey San Francisco Fire Department 698 Second Street San Francisco, CA 94116 | | |

- 1. When replacing a fire alarm control unit in an existing building due to obsolescence or the addition of access required notification appliances, is the new control unit required to be only code compliant and listed compatible with other existing components such as smoke detectors, heat detectors, etc... ?**

Yes. It is the intent that only the replacement FACU, devices and appliances are required to comply with the current edition of the code and standard.

Note: However the existing fire alarm system shall conform to the codes and standards at the time the fire alarm system was originally installed.

The authority having jurisdiction shall be consulted prior to the replacement of any fire alarm control unit or system modification, every building is considered on a case by case basis. Complete documentation shall be provided in accordance with NFPA 72, California Fire Code and local requirements.

- 2. Are notification appliances to be made code compliant throughout as for new buildings?**

No. See note above.